PFAS UPDATES

EPA Region 4

FEBRUARY 4, 2022

Region 4 items:

Upcoming meeting with EPA Region 4 States PFAS Points of Contact — February 24, 2022 at 10AM ET. Meeting invite and agenda to follow. Please send agenda requests/topics to Aaryn Jones.

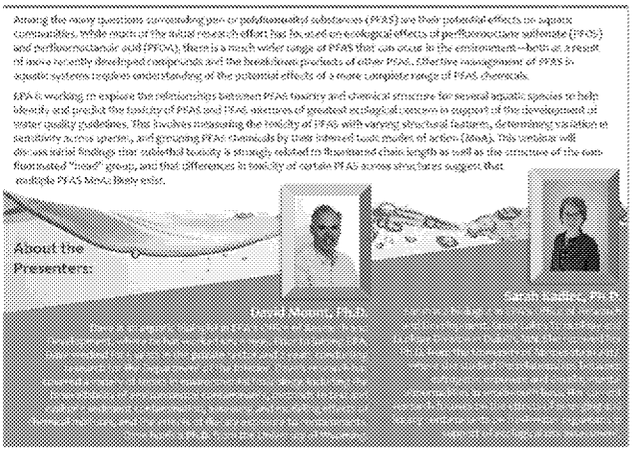
General EPA items:

Additional PFAS added to Toxics Release Inventory: PFBS and its potassium salt, along with two other PFAS, were added to the TRI, see press release here.

PFAS IRIS Assessment: On **February 2,** EPA released the **draft PFHxA** IRIS assessment for public comment. Click here for more information. The deadline for public comment is April 4, 2022.

PFAS BOSC Report: On January 26, EPA ORD received a report containing recommendations from EPA's Board of Scientific Counselors (BOSC) on the implementation of EPA's PFAS research and development activities. The report is available here.

EPA ORD Water Research Webinar: ***Assessing the Toxicity of PFAS Chemicals to Aquatic Organisms.*** The Office of Research and Development invites you to attend a free webinar on **Wednesday, February 23 from 2-3PM ET**. Feel free to share the flyer (attached to email) and/or forward the calendar invite. **Register here**



Previous Updates, with upcoming dates:

PFBA draft IRIS assessment public peer review meeting: **February 22 at 10:30AM EST; February 23 at 10:30AM ET.** Click here to learn more and register. The deadline to register to attend the peer review meeting is Feb 23.The deadline to register for oral comments is Feb 15.

EPA Release of Unregulated Contaminants Monitoring Rule (UCMR) 5: December 20 press release on final rule release; rule was published in the Federal Register on December 27. Public Webinars will be held **March 16 from 9AM-12:30PM ET, and March 17 from 1-4:30PM ET**. Click here to find more info and links to register.

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PFAS UPDATES

EPA Region 4

JANUARY 14, 2022

Region 4 items:

EPA Response to NC PFAS Testing Petition: December 28 press release referencing ongoing work under the National PFAS testing strategy.

Training for ADEM on PFAS Analytic Tool (OECA GIS tool) - February 8, 10-11AM EST - OECA will provide virtual training to approximately 50 ADEM PFAS Committee Meeting Members. **Let me know if you would be interested in a similar training for your state.*

General EPA items:

SAB Review of PFOA/PFOS Drinking-Water Science: 4 public meetings recently took place (December 16, January 4, 6, and 7). Click here for meeting materials and public comments.

PFBA draft IRIS assessment public peer review meeting: February 22 at 10:30AM EST; February 23 at 10:30AM EST. Click here to learn more and register.

PFAS Explainers are live on EPA PFAS Website:

Three explainers have been posted on the Web – https://www.epa.gov/pfas/pfas-explained. They cover:

Our current understanding of the human health and environmental risks PFAS

Increasing our understanding of the health risks from PFAS and how to address them

Meaningful and achievable action steps that can be taken to reduce risk

EPA Release of UCMR 5: December 20 press release on final rule release; rule was published in the Federal Register on December 27 Public Webinars will be held March 16 from 9AM-12:30PM EST, and March 17 from 1-4:30PM EST. Click here to find more info and links to register.

Other Federal Agency PFAS updates:

EPA OIG on PFAS Drinking Water: In its FY22 oversight plan, released on December 16, EPA OIG said it plans to "[d]etermine why the EPA has not established a mandatory limit for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, which are commonly known as PFAS, in drinking water; what challenges may prevent the EPA from setting such a limit; and what the EPA's plan—if one exists—is for implementing such a limit." OIG FY22 plan

USGS PFAS Strategy: "The U.S. Geological Survey released a strategy today [December 22] that outlines the agency's future scientific role in the study of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances, chemicals known as PFAS." December 22 press release | Direct link to strategy

New DOE Guidance on Reporting PFAS Spills: Following up on a September memo from DOE's Deputy Secretary, DOE released a memo on December 7 on how DOE should report spills of PFAS-containing AFFF. (Memo is very technical and focused on DOE's internal database.) Link to memo

ATSDR Health Consultation Report on New Hampshire/Saint Gobain: Released on December 15 for public comment, concluding the pre-2016 drinking water PFAS levels could have increased the risk of harmful health effects for some community members, and noting that harmful exposures to PFAS in private wells have been minimized by providing alternate water and taking other actions. Press release

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PFAS UPDATES

EPA Region 4

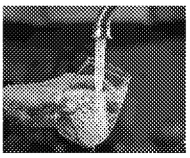
NOVEMBER 16, 2021

Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal - Emerging Contaminants Funding

On **November 15,** President Biden signed the Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal into law. You can find general information on EPA's investments under the Deal here. please note that there is $4B for the Drinking Water SRF for Emerging Contaminants, $5B for Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Grants to address Emerging Contaminants, and $1B to the Clean Water SRF for Emerging Contaminants.

Notification of a Public Meetings of the Science Advisory Board (SAB) Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Review Panel

On **November 10,** EPA published a Federal Register Notice announcing four public meetings of the SAB per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) Review Panel (PFAS Review Panel) to review EPA's Proposed Approaches to the **Derivation of a Draft Maximum Contaminant Level Goal for Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) in Drinking Water**; EPA's Proposed Approaches to the **Derivation of a Draft Maximum Contaminant Level Goal for Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid (PFOS) in Drinking Water**; EPA's Analysis of Cardiovascular Disease Risk Reduction as a Result of Reduced PFOA and PFOS Exposure in Drinking Water; and EPA's Draft Framework for Estimating Noncancer Health Risks Associated with Mixtures of PFAS.



The public meetings of the SAB PFAS Review Panel will be held on Thursday, December 16, 2021, from 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 4, 2022, from 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m., Thursday, January 6, 2022, from 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m., and Friday, January 7, 2022, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. All Times are EST. Closer to the date, the SAB webpage will be updated with meeting links.

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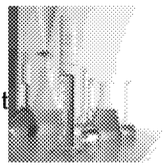
PFAS UPDATES

EPA Region 4

NOVEMBER 10, 2021

GenX Chemicals Toxicity Assessment (added Public Webinar information and link below)



On October 25, EPA released a final human health toxicity assessment for GenX chemicals. The agency's final 2021 GenX assessment uses the state-of-the-art systematic review process, incorporates new data available since 2018, and applies revised uncertainty factors. These changes resulted in a lower, more protective toxicity value for GenX chemicals relative to EPA's 2018 draft toxicity assessment. EPA updated its GenX Human Health Toxicity Assessments Webpage and provided an informative Fact Sheet (see Table 2 below from the Fact Sheet that compares chronic reference doses for four PFAS).

EPA's release of the final GenX chemicals toxicity assessment is a key step toward developing a national drinking water health advisory for GenX chemicals, which the agency also committed to publishing in Spring 2022 as part of the PFAS Roadmap.

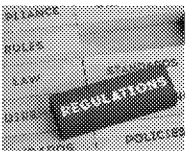
Table 2. Comparison of Reference Doses (RfDs) for Four PFAS

PFAS Chemical	Chronic RfD (mg/kg-day)
GenX chemicals (EPA 2021)	0.000003
PFBS (EPA 2021)	0.0003
PFOA (EPA 2016)	0.00002*
PFOS (EPA 2016)	0.00002*

*Note: EPA is currently reevaluating toxicity information for PFOA and PFOS and therefore this value is subject to change.

Please join EPA for a public webinar on the GenX Chemicals Human Health Toxicity Assessment on November 12, 2021 from 10:00am – 11:00am EST.

Notification of a Public Meetings of the Science Advisory Board (SAB) Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Review Panel



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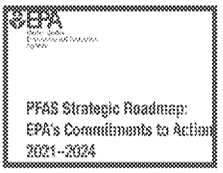
PFAS UPDATES

EPA Region 4

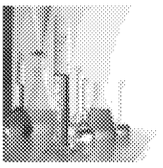
OCTOBER 27, 2021

EPA PFAS Strategic Roadmap



On **October 18**, EPA released the "PFAS Strategic Roadmap: EPA's Commitments to Action 2021-2024". Here are weblinks to EPA's press release and White House announcements on the Roadmap and PFAS actions. Please visit this link to view the entire video of Administrator Regan's announcement that was made right here in our Region. You can also join members of EPA's PFAS Council to learn more about the actions EPA plans to take by registering for the next week's webinar. Register to attend the November 2, 2021 webinar. Please also note that EPA PFAS webpage has been updated and there is a separate webpage on the Roadmap.

GenX Chemicals Toxicity Assessment



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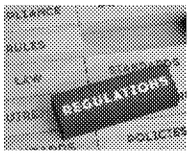
RCRA Corrective Action PFAS Update



On **October 26,** EPA announced that it will initiate the process to propose adding four PFAS chemicals as RCRA Hazardous Constituents under Appendix VIII of RCRA. These four PFAS include PFOA, PFOS, PFBS, and GenX.

If completed, this action would make these PFAS subject to RCRA corrective action requirements, and would be a key step toward listing them as hazardous wastes. EPA also announced that the Agency will initiate a separate rulemaking proposal to clarify in our regulations that the RCRA Corrective Action Program has the authority to require investigation and cleanup for wastes that meet the statutory definition of hazardous waste, as defined under RCRA section 1004 (5). This modification would clarify that emerging contaminants such as PFAS can be cleaned up through the RCRA corrective action process.

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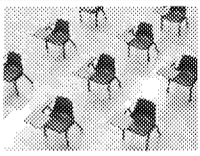
PFAS UPDATES

EPA Region 4

OCTOBER 8, 2021

Total PFAS Analysis for Public Health Protection: Science, Applications, Benefits, and Challenges Virtual Workshop



Wednesday & Thursday, October 27 and 28, 2021; 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. EDT each day

Registration Is Now Open!! Take the opportunity to reserve your virtual seat!

Non-targeted and other total PFAS analytic methods are being increasingly employed to more thoroughly characterize the total quantity and type of PFAS compounds that may be present in the environment.

- Get an overview of the state-of-the-science methods for environmental monitoring of PFAS
- Review techniques, analytics, and potential applications of total PFAS analysis: Non-Targeted Analysis (NTA), Total Organic Fluorine Assay (TOF), and Total Oxidizable Precursors (TOP)
- Explore the feasibility and effective implementation of total PFAS analysis technology transfers
- Determine how total PFAS data analysis and interpretations can be applied to your specific needs
- Learn from case studies from around the country that highlight the benefits and challenges of each analytical method for total PFAS
- Provide input on state and regional-level issues related to PFAS analytical methods

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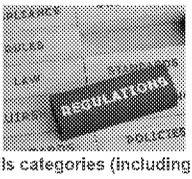
PFAS UPDATES

EPA Region 4

OCTOBER 1, 2021

Preliminary Effluent Guidelines Program Plan 15

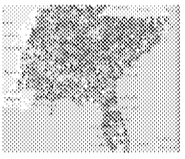


On **September 8**, EPA announced it is committing to limit PFAS in wastewater discharges by releasing the **Preliminary Effluent Guidelines Program Plan 15**, and has determined that revised **effluent limit guidelines (ELGs)** and pretreatment standards are warranted for:

- Organic Chemicals, Plastics and Synthetic Fibers category to address per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) discharges from **facilities manufacturing PFAS.**
- Metal Finishing category to address PFAS discharges from **chromium electroplating facilities.**

Also, Preliminary Plan 15 initiates detailed studies of PFAS discharges from the **Landfills and Textile Mills categories (including carpet manufacturers)**. Comments can be submitted on Preliminary Plan 15 through **October 14.**

PFAS Analytic Tools — Version 3.0 — Available NOW!



EPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance is proud to announce **Version 3.0 release of PFAS Analytic Tools** – an application for Federal, state, local, and tribal agencies to analyze spatial and temporal data related to PFAS in the United States.

- Training for government employees will be on **October 26 from 2:30 to 4:00pm Eastern**. Please click here to register. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.
- **Please register using your EPA, state, or local government email address** - this webinar is for governmental employees only, please only share with those in your organization. "This webinar contains non-public law enforcement techniques, procedures or guidelines – confidential, do not distribute outside your organization."

To Access the App:

- Navigate to EPA's ECHO website.
- Log-in to ECHO Gov. Please visit https://echo.epa.gov/user/help to register or for issues with access.
- Navigate to the PFAS data navigation page through the Analyze Trends Button on the homepage or go to the following URL: https://echo.epa.gov/trends/pfas-analytics

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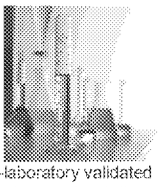
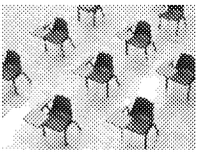
EPA PFAS Methods Update



SW-846 Method 8327 and 3512 (Hazardous Waste Test Methods):
SW-846 Methods 3512 and 8327 were validated together for 24 PFAS in **surface water, groundwater, and wastewater.** The final versions were published in the SW-846 Compendium on July 30, 2021 and are available for use.

Draft Method 1633:
On September 2, EPA announced that a partnership between EPA and the Department of Defense's Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program has produced draft Method 1633, a single-laboratory validated method to test for 40 PFAS compounds in **wastewater, surface water, groundwater, soil, biosolids, sediment, landfill leachate, and fish tissue.** EPA and DoD will continue to collaborate to complete a multi-laboratory validation study of the method in 2022. This draft method can be used in various applications, including National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits. The method will support NPDES implementation by providing a consistent PFAS method that has been tested in a wide variety of wastewaters and contains all the required quality control procedures for a Clean Water Act (CWA) method. While the method is not nationally required for CWA compliance monitoring until EPA has promulgated it through rulemaking, it is recommended now for use in individual permits.

Total PFAS Analysis for Public Health Protection: Science, Applications, Benefits, and Challenges Virtual Workshop



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